

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/584,426

Examiner

YOGESH PATEL

Applicant(s)

BRAJNOVIC, IZIDOR

Art Unit

3732

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/17/2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15 and 18-26.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                                 |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.  |

YOGESH PATEL/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3732

**ALLOWANCE**

***Examiner's Amendment/Interview Summary***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview to attorney of record, Nathan S. Smith on 08/17/2010 and agreed to accept the changes.

**2. The following amendments apply to the claims of 08/09/2010:**

**Claim 23:**

An arrangement for orienting a bridge in position relative to a dental implant, the arrangement comprising a spacer member configured to cooperate with the dental implant to provide position orientation through cooperation with fastening members arranged in the bridge, the spacer member comprising~~[[:]]~~ a first sleeve-shaped part and a second sleeve-shaped part, the first sleeve-shaped part having an expandable structure at an upper end thereof and outer and inner surfaces, the inner surface being cone-shaped and configured to be contacted by a surface of a head of a screw such that movement of the screw into the implant causes expansion of the expandable structure of the first sleeve-shaped part; ~~and a,~~ the second sleeve-shaped part comprising an inner surface configured to mate against the outer surface of the first sleeve-shaped part when the first sleeve-shaped part is expanded such that the second sleeve-shaped part is secured to the first sleeve-shaped part, the second sleeve-

Art Unit: 3732

shaped part further comprising a portion that engages with a fastening member of the bridge for separating the second sleeve-shaped part from securement with the first sleeve-shaped part.

**3. Claim 26:** The arrangement as in claim 23, wherein the inner surface of the first sleeve-shaped part is ~~cone-shaped, the inner surface being~~ configured to be contacted against a cone-shaped surface of the head of the screw to cause expansion of the expandable structure of the first sleeve-shaped part.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-15, 18-26 are allowed. The art of record does not teach or render obvious a method and an arrangement for orienting a bridge in position relative to a dental implant including coupling a first sleeve-shaped part of a spacer member to the dental implant using a screw; guiding an inner surface of a first portion of a second sleeve-shaped part against an outer surface of the first sleeve-shaped part; rotating the screw in a first direction to contact a cone-shaped surface of a head of the screw against an inner surface of the first sleeve-shaped part as the screw moves into the first sleeve part to expand at least a portion of the first sleeve-shaped part such that the outer surface of the first sleeve-shaped part expands against the inner surface of the first portion of the second sleeve-shaped part to secure the second sleeve-shaped part to the first sleeve-shaped part; attaching a bridge to a second portion of the second sleeve-shaped part; rotating the screw to loosen the second sleeve-shaped part from the first sleeve-shaped part of the

Art Unit: 3732

spacer member and removing the bridge along with the second sleeve-shaped part with the first sleeve-shaped part remaining attached to the implant.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOGESH PATEL whose telephone number is (571)270-3646. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cris Rodriguez can be reached on 571-272-4964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3732

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/YOGESH PATEL/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3732

/Cris L. Rodriguez/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3732